



LaRoche + Associates

February 23, 2005

Dear Reviewer:

Enclosed are Volumes I, II and III of the Public Hearing Draft for the revised Aleutians West Coastal Resource Service Area (AWCRSA) Coastal Management Plan. Volume I includes the introduction to the *Coastal Resources Inventory and Environmental Sensitivity Maps* but does not include the maps because they remain unchanged (please see additional information below). Volume II is the *Resource Inventory and Analysis* and Volume III is the *Goals, Objectives, Policies and Implementation*. We invite your review of these documents.

The deadline for the receipt of all written and verbal comments is **April 1, 2005**. As required and provided in the provisions of House Bill 191 (Chapter 24, SLA 2003), the AWCRSA has developed the Public Review Draft of the AWCRSA CMP in accordance with the revised Alaska Coastal Management (ACMP) statutes at AS 46.39 and AS 46.40 and the new ACMP regulations at 11 AAC 110, 11 AAC 112, and 11 AAC 114.

The revision of the AWCRSA Coastal Management Plan began in the fall of 2000, with preliminary work done in 1999-2000. Community meetings were held in Atka, Nikolski, and Unalaska in 2001-2002. Changes to the Statewide program in 2003 and 2004 require this additional revision. If approved, this plan will guide the AWCRSA's participation in the Alaska Coastal Management Program. Uses and activities in the AWCRSA's coastal zone that require local, state or federal authorization will be reviewed for consistency with this plan.

The AWCRSA encompasses all the islands of the Aleutian Chain from Unalaska Island west to Attu Island, a distance of approximately 1,000 miles. The region is vast with small population centers and is rich in resources and history. The AWCRSA was established in the unorganized borough in the Western Aleutians in 1987 and is governed by a seven-member citizen board representing communities in the area. The AWCRSA is one of 35 coastal districts in Alaska that participate in Alaska's Coastal Management Program.

We also invite you to participate in public forums that will be held during the review period:

- Monday, March 21, 6:30 p.m.,
AWCRSA Board Presentation & Hearing, Unalaska Library
- Tuesday, March 22,
Presentation to Unalaska City Council
- Wednesday, March 23, 10 a.m., (Atka/Nikolski time)
Teleconference Hearing, Atka Community Center and Nikolski IRA

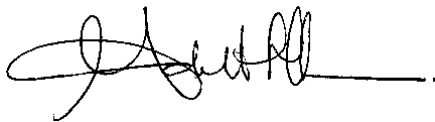
Comments may be provided through the Public Hearings, or by mail, fax, or email by **April 1, 2005** to LaRoche+Associates, 555 Blue Sky Drive, Port Townsend WA 98368, or 360-385-2559 or gabrielle@larocheandassociates.com.

For special assistance, more information, or to request additional copies of the draft (the files are available in both CD and paper format), contact LaRoche+Associates at 360-385-2559 or gabrielle@larocheandassociates.com. If you need to review the *Coastal Resources Inventory and Environmental Sensitivity Maps* you have several options. First, these maps were distributed as Volume I to your community previously and should be available locally. A second option is to review these maps on the web at:

<http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/Explore/AWCRSA/maplinks.html>

A third option is to contact Laroche+Associates and request either a paper copy or a CD with these maps for your review. You may also contact AWCRSA Program Director Karol Kolehmainen at (800) 207-6701 or awcrsa@gci.net.

Sincerely,



Gabrielle LaRoche, Principal
LaRoche+ Associates

Enclosures

Cc: AWCRSA Director and Board